



**SPECIAL CALL MEETING
SWEARING-IN CEREMONY
CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF HOMESTEAD**

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2017, 6:00 PM
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
100 CIVIC COURT
HOMESTEAD, FL 33030

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Porter called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

2. INVOCATION - BISHOP IRENE HARRIS

The invocation was led by Bishop Irene Harris.

3. HONOR GUARD - HOMESTEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Color Guard was presented by the Homestead Police Department.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - TAYLOR WATSON

The pledge of allegiance was led by Taylor Watson.

Mayor Porter thanked Bishop Harris for the invocation and Ms. Watson for leading the Pledge of Allegiance. He stated it is always an honor to have the City's Police Department doing the Honor Guard.

5. ROLL CALL

Mayor and Council present: Mayor Jeff Porter, Vice Mayor Patricia Fairclough, Councilman Jon Burgess, Councilman Elvis Maldonado, Councilman Larry Roth and Councilman Stephen Shelley. Councilman Jimmie L. Williams, III was absent.

**6. CERTIFICATION OF THE NOVEMBER 7, 2017 GENERAL ELECTION AND
OCTOBER 3, 2017 PRIMARY ELECTION (TAB 1)**

A Motion to accept the Resolution was made by Councilman Burgess, seconded by Councilman Roth.

Mayor Porter called for the vote.

Roll Call:

Councilman Maldonado	-	Yes
Councilman Roth	-	Yes

Councilman Burgess	-	Yes
Councilman Shelley	-	Yes
Vice Mayor Fairclough	-	Yes
Mayor Porter	-	Yes
Councilman Williams	-	Absent

Motion carried.

7. **SINE DIE**

Mayor Porter asked that all council members remove themselves from the dais to participate in the Sine and Die.

8. **ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW COUNCIL** (TAB 2)

Mayor Porter stated the next item on the agenda was the administration of the Oath of Office, whereby the council would have their swearing in administered as follows:

- Mr. Ken Berger & Mrs. Marlen Porter – Berger to Mayor Jeff Porter
- Mr. Gregory Shelley to Vice Mayor Stephen R. Shelley
- Mr. Kyle Bailey to Councilwoman Jenifer N. Bailey
- Ms. Valerie Velez to Councilman Elvis R. Maldonado

The new council was seated at the dais.

Mayor Jeff Porter thanked everyone for attending this Swearing-In Ceremony because it was a very special event to have their families present. He recognized his mother, father and wife for their support.

Vice Mayor Stephen Shelley stated this election for him was a reflection point, having served and dedicated time and effort to bring good projects forth to the City of Homestead and to spend eight years the City and the job becomes a part of him. This election he started reflecting as he was going through the process because as you get to the twilight of your life, you also get to the twilight of your career. In elected office they have term limits of twelve years and this is the twilight of his elected time and it made him become very sentimental about the process. He noted elections for him has always been exciting because major life events have occurred during his election cycles. He mentioned the first time he ran for office he got married in the middle of the election between the primary and general elections. Four years later he going to work the polls and do typical election-day things and he discovered that day he was going to be a father for the first time, which was another historical moment in his life that was tied into the election. Therefore, he started thinking back on what this job means to him and what he has brought to the Council and it has transition into what the Council as a body has done in transforming the City, the Council and staff, which has changed over the last eight to ten years. He noted the level of success the City had ten years ago is different from what it has today. He noted the City has a more professional staff thanks to City Manager George Gretsas who has brought a new level of professionalism to the way this Council and City operates and has changed the culture in the City of Homestead. He emphasized the

City means a lot to him and he looked forward to serving the City for four more years because of the initiatives that the City has started and the revitalization of the City's downtown. He expressed his excitement about continuing to work with the Council because they have done a great job and there is much more work to be done.

Mayor Porter stated because of Vice Mayor Shelley's track record and how the community appreciates what he is doing he ran unopposed, which is rare and it is quite a compliment to him for what he has done for this community and City. He thanked Vice Mayor Shelley for his service.

Councilwoman Jenifer N. Bailey stated she was incredibly humbled and honored to be elected to serve on the Council. She mentioned it was one of the most exciting, scariest and the hardest thing she has ever done in her life. She thanked her family, especially her husband and her son. She noted she was excited to serve on the Council for the betterment of the City of Homestead and its citizens. She commented she looked forward to making those who voted for her proud and just as importantly, to gain the trust and support of those who did not. She mentioned she was aware of all that she has to learn and was counting on the community to help her and the Council continue to make Homestead a place that we are proud to call home.

Councilwoman Patricia Fairclough thanked everyone for being present to participate in such a momentous occasion such as this. She commented that everyone is grateful that the elections is over because last night half of the City was celebrating a victory and the other half felt that they had a defeat, but there is a beauty about today because we do not have to focus on the half anymore, but on the whole and the work the Council is going to do together for the Homestead community. She reaffirmed her commitment to this community to serve, support and assist all of those trusted her to lead with honor. She congratulated her colleagues that were returning and the newly elected Councilwoman Jenifer Bailey who she looks forward to sharing the dais with and extended her support and assistance.

Mayor Porter thanked Councilwoman Fairclough for her service to the community as Vice Mayor.

Councilman Elvis Maldonado stated this election made him reflect on his years of service to the City of Homestead and all he has been through. He mentioned he lost his wife during his first term of office, the second term was about making sure his family was safe and secure. He also stated he is honored, happy and proud of all the Council had accomplished with the City Manager and staff. He noted this is a great organization making a difference in the community. He stated he has been asked why he serves the community and thinks about the fire fighters who are running towards fires when everyone is running away. The police officers who have to deal with danger, our military men and women who fight for us in order to enjoy the freedoms that we have. He stated there is something inside of each of the members of the Council hearts, personality or DNA that makes them want to serve and make their communities better than they found it. Therefore, when he thought about running for office again he had to admit to himself that serving his community was a part of him and he needed to finish what he started. He stated he was looking forward to working again with his colleagues for another four years. The council has done a lot of good work and they are going to finish what they have started. There are some good projects to be done and he is looking forward to working with this team. He congratulated Vice Mayor Shelley and Councilwoman Jenifer Bailey.

Councilman Jon Burgess congratulated his colleagues on their re-election and election. He commented the election is over and today we should move forward as one council and great community the City of Homestead. He stated he was looking forward to two more years of hard work.

Mayor Porter stated Councilman Burgess was a hard worker that was committed to his job and thanked him for his service.

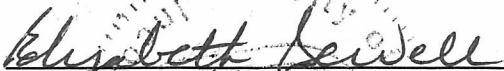
Councilman Larry Roth congratulated Councilwoman Bailey on winning her election. He reflected on when he was elected to office and stated there was nothing more rewarding, but he could not have gotten this far without the support of the City Manager, the staff who helped guide him through the beginning of his term as Councilman and his colleagues. He noted he received unbelievable support, no one was afraid to answer his questions and he is so happy he is no longer the new kid on the block. He congratulated his colleagues on their re-election and express his excitement regarding the things that are coming to the City of Homestead. He thanked the public for their attendance and support.

Mayor Porter recognized Mayor Otis Wallace and his wife from the City of Florida City for attending this event. He also thanked the spouses of the council members for what they do and commended them for their support. He stated the community did the right thing and elected the right people into office and this team is going to do amazing things. He also recognized City Manager Gretsas and stated it was an honor to him at the City and his performance is stunning and amazing. He also commended the City Clerk for her performance and the Chief of Police and his department for their commitment to this community and the fabulous job they do. He complimented City Manager Gretsas for assembling this entire team and that is why the City is accomplishing such great things because the Council is able to work together as policy makers and the Manager and his staff are able to deploy the policies the Council has asked him to implement. He stated the Council and Administration work great as a team and he believes this is going to be a fabulous couple of years for this community. He stated that Councilwoman Bailey is a great addition to the Council. He also thanked the community for giving him another opportunity to serve for two more years.

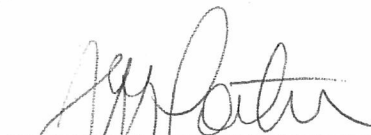
9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Mayor Porter at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elizabeth Sewell, MPA, MMC
City Clerk


Jeff Porter,
Mayor